

our time, center on ethical concerns, searching for the core of the ethical human being, the meaning of righteousness and good.

For Jewish people this High Holy Day is one for evaluating their conduct of the past year, not only toward their fellow man, but for all the creatures of the earth and for the earth itself. This re-thinking of their conduct requires each person to examine his or her moral and spiritual values, principles, ethical standards, in other words the moral core of their being. The Jews from ancient times valued these high holy days more than the other holidays and traveled to the Temple in Jerusalem so the High Priests could perform the spiritual rituals that would cleanse them of their sins and seek blessings of peace for them and inscribe each with his or loved ones in the Book of Life. This day is the beginning of the Jewish calendar year. It is a beginning in a spiritual sense which is more important than a change in the calendar.

For the Jewish people, each Rosh Hashanah is a new year that is one more step in a history thousands of years long. Jewish people strive to understand the values of our forebears and build on what has gone before. Jewish people all over the world read from the writings of the sages who wrote during the long exile in Babylon a model for moral behavior:

"The one who proceeds with integrity, and takes action for justice, and speaks truth with their heart, the one who does no harm to others, and does not raise trouble for their neighbor. . . ."

On Rosh Hashanah Jews also reflect on the words of Isaiah,

"Wash yourselves; make yourselves clean. Put away the evil of your doings from before mine eyes. Cease to do evil; learn what is good. Seek justice; relieve the oppressed; Speak out for the orphan; advocate for the widow."—Isaiah, I: 16-17

The prayers are also a promise to God to strive for peace. In this Holy Day liturgy which spans the millennia, the Jewish people around the world pray for God's peace: Bring peace, the Jews sing, peace to the Jews and to the whole world.

The second High Holy Day, Yom Kippur, the Day of Atonement, is the most solemn day of the Jewish year. Yom Kippur is a day of fasting, reflection and prayers. The names of this day in Hebrew are many: Yom HaZikaron, "Day of remembrance," Yom ha-Din "Day of Judgment", the day on which God judges all human beings by their deeds during the year just ended and inscribes their fate in the heavenly record book for the next year. Some believe the Book of Life will close at sundown on Yom Kippur. As the sun slowly sinks in the sky, the fasting people stand for the entire evening service. Some believe literally, others believe metaphorically, that on this day God has determined who will live, and who will die. They make a last plea for their loved ones and themselves. They also pledge to live the ethical life they believe is required of them by soul or spirit that is the spark of God in them. In Judaism, ethics are the foundation of prayer and the theology of prayer. This is most evident on the High Holy Days.

Yom Kippur is also called in Hebrew, Yom Teruah, "The Day of the Sounding of the Shofar" In the ancient past trumpet sound called the people together to repent sins, to forsake evil and to pursue goodness and mercy. One

of the most important observances of this holiday is hearing the repeated trumpeting sound of the Shofar in the synagogue.

For most Jews the call of the Shofar is a reminder of their rich heritage, the centuries in a Diaspora when they had nothing but their Holy Book and their liturgy. The call of the Shofar reminds Jews they survived the Roman Empire which burned their Holy Temple twice and drove them to exile; survived expulsion from Spain, survived pogroms, poverty and restrictive regulations in Russia and Eastern Europe and even survived the Nazi "final solution, genocide the murder of their men, women and their babies; survived to have a Jewish Country and flag. In all that time and through all those trials, the Jews of the world have kept their Holy Days. Their Holy Book is unchanged from the day they took it into exile. The Jews have lived now to hear the Shofar blown in Israel as it was before the Diaspora. The liturgy has remained as it was in ancient times, but in the last century prayers and remembrances have been added for the victims of the Holocaust.

The words of the Kaddish are a hymn that praises God. It is a public declaration of the Jewish belief that God is Great and Holy and it envisions a time when Peace will be established on earth. One form of the prayer says "may He who makes peace in heaven, make peace for us."

On the High Holy Days, the Days of Awe of 2005, I join with my Jewish friends and wish peace for us.

HONORING ANDREA LEIDERMAN

HON. MICHAEL M. HONDA

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, October 7, 2005

Mr. HONDA. Mr. Speaker, I rise to honor the life and contributions of Ms. Andrea Leiderman who recently passed away. Andrea is survived by her parents and siblings, and her loving husband, Hayes Alexander, III. She will be sorely missed by her many friends and our community. Today, I honor her energy, her determination and her life-long service to the Bay Area community.

Andrea Naomi Leiderman was born on August 8, 1959 in Boston, Massachusetts, to Drs. Herbert and Gloria Leiderman. The family moved west when Andrea, the youngest of four children, was four years old. Andrea grew up on the Stanford campus where her father is a professor emeritus, and has always been politically active. As a child, she organized a school grape boycott in support of the United Farm Workers; as an adult, she worked on the presidential campaigns of George McGovern, Jimmy Carter and Alan Cranston.

Andrea attended Vassar College, majoring in political science. After college, she worked as a legislative assistant to former New York Representative Matt McHugh and, later, as the LBJ Congressional Fellow to former California Representative Norman Mineta, currently U.S. Secretary of Transportation. Andrea also served as an aide to County Supervisor Jim Beall during his tenure on the San Jose City Council.

Andrea was only 28 years old when she was elected as chairwoman of the Santa Clara County Democratic Party. She was also elect-

ed as chair of the Women's Caucus, and received the highest number of votes in delegate elections.

Andrea served on the Santa Clara County Board of Education, including two terms as President of the Board in 1995 and 2000. Andrea spearheaded school board policy on neighborhood outreach while advocating workforce education and emphasizing assistance to underrepresented students. She was also a valued trustee of the Foothill-DeAnza Community College District.

Most recently, Andrea was Director of Government and Community Relations for Kaiser Permanente's South Bay facilities, using her experience in the public sector to promote healthcare. She was a dedicated and committed worker until the end.

Andrea Leiderman died at the very young age of 46, on September 11, 2005. When she passed away, our community lost one of its most dynamic community activists—an advocate of minority rights, social justice, education and equality.

IN HONOR OF COACH SAM MILLS

HON. FRANK PALLONE, JR.

OF NEW JERSEY

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, October 7, 2005

Mr. PALLONE. Mr. Speaker, I would like to take this opportunity to recognize a distinguished athlete from my district, Carolina Panthers' Linebacker Coach Sam Mills. Unfortunately, after fighting cancer for two years, Mr. Mills passed away on April 18, 2005 at the age of 45.

Not only did Mr. Mills play in the NFL for twelve seasons, he used his expertise to coach the Panthers' linebackers. Sam Mills played his first nine seasons with the New Orleans Saints and his last three with the Panthers. He earned five Pro Bowl selections, including one while playing for Carolina in 1996. Sam was the second member of the Panthers Hall of Fame and was elected to the Sports Hall of Fame of New Jersey in 2003. Despite injuries to two of his best linebackers last season, Coach Mills led his linebacking corps to be an integral part of a defense that has ranked in the top ten for the past two seasons.

John Fox, the head coach of the Carolina Panthers, stated upon Mills' passing, "... as a coach he made the players better; as a friend he made us all better".

I ask my colleagues in the United States House of Representatives to join me in acknowledging the life and work of this exceptional individual. I wish to honor Coach Sam Mills for his ability to impart his skills and intelligence upon his players and for his outstanding career as both a professional player and coach.

TRIBUTE TO GRANDPARENTS AND OTHER RELATIVES WHO ARE CAREGIVERS

HON. BOB BEAUPREZ

OF COLORADO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, October 7, 2005

Mr. BEAUPREZ. Mr. Speaker, across the country there are more than 6 million children